

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 – 34 are presented for reconsideration and further examination in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 35 – 41 have been canceled.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1 – 34 were allowed; claims 35 – 48 and 40 – 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,027,486 to Dougherty (hereinafter referred to as “the Dougherty ‘486 patent”); and claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Dougherty ‘486 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,991,576 to Tazaki et al. (hereinafter referred to as “the Tazaki et al. ‘576 patent”).

By this Response and Amendment, claims 35 – 41 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejections thereto moot.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter to this application within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 35 – 38 and 40 – 41 as being anticipated by the Dougherty ‘486 patent.

Response

By this Response and Amendment, claims 35 – 38 and 40 – 41 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejections thereto moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections and allow the remaining claims pending in the present application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 39 as being unpatentable over the Dougherty '486 patent in view of the Tazaki et al. '576 patent.

Response

By this Response and Amendment, claim 39 has been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereto moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections and allow the remaining claims pending in the present application.

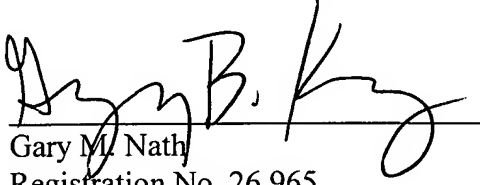
CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,
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